

ORATION, DELIVERED BEFORE THE
FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY

By

Edward Lee Winslow



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ORATION,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

FAYETTEVILLE INDEPENDENT LIGHT INFANTRY COMPANY,

ON THE

SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CORPS,

August 23d, 1843,

BY EDWARD LEE WINSLOW, ESQ.

Published by the unanimous solicitation of the Company.

FAYETTEVILLE:

PRINTED BY EDWARD J. HALE,

1843.

FAYETTEVILLE, AUGUST 24, 1843.

EDWARD LEE WINSLOW, Esq.

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company, on the evening of the 23d instant, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That Major Cook, Captains McLean, McKethan, Campbell and Sundy, Sergeants Nott, McKay, McMillan, Kirkpatrick and Draughon, and Messrs. E. J. Clark and W. G. Matthews, be appointed a Committee to tender the thanks of the Independent Light Infantry Company to EDWARD LEE WINSLOW, Esq., for the able, eloquent and spirited Oration delivered by him on the occasion of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of this Corps."

"Resolved, further, That the said Committee be instructed, on behalf of the Corps, to solicit a copy of the Oration for publication."

In discharge of the duty, the Committee desire to express the pleasure they derive in acting as the organ of their Corps in so pleasing a duty, and trust it may be agreeable to you to furnish a copy to spread upon the Records, and for publication.

Respectfully,

JOHN H. COOK, Major Commandant.

ARCH'D McLEAN, 1st Captain.

A. A. McKETHAN, 2d Captain.

A. M. CAMPBELL, 3d Captain.

JAMES SUNDY, 4th Captain.

W. T. NOTT, Orderly Sergeant.

W. McL. McKAY, 2d Sergeant.

C. A. McMILLAN, 3d Sergeant.

W. E. KIRKPATRICK, 4th Sergeant.

WALTER DRAUGHON, 5th Sergeant.

E. J. CLARK.

W. G. MATTHEWS.

FAYETTEVILLE, AUGUST 26, 1843.

To Major JOHN H. COOK, Capt. ARCH'D McLEAN, and others, Committee, &c.

Fellow Soldiers: I have your note of the 24th instant, informing me of the vote of thanks passed by the Independent Company, and the solicitation that a copy of the Oration delivered on the 50th Anniversary of your Corps be furnished to spread on your Records, and for publication.

The Oration may possess value as a correct history of the Company, and will be read with satisfaction in times to come, by those who will fill the places we now occupy. Beyond the circle of those who have been, and are now connected with the Corps, I am aware it will possess but little interest. It is at your disposal. With my thanks for the kind manner you have communicated with me on this occasion, I hope it will be received as evidence of the warm regard in the welfare of the Company entertained by

Your Fellow Soldier and Townsman,

EDWARD LEE WINSLOW.

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ORATION.



FELLOW SOLDIERS OF THE FAYETTEVILLE

INDEPENDENT COMPANY OF LIGHT INFANTRY:

Time, in his sure and steady passage, has brought around your Fiftieth Birth-Day. The invitation to appear as your representative on this interesting occasion, was as unexpected to me, as it is highly gratifying and complimentary. Diffidence of my ability to fulfil your wishes, to satisfy myself, to compensate this large and respected audience for their polite attendance, the pressure of the cares of business, and unaccustomed as I have been to appear on such occasions, should have compelled me perhaps to have declined the performance of your request, and the grateful task of pronouncing this Address had been better charged on an abler arm.

But, Fellow Soldiers, your invitation was one I knew not how to decline, though convinced it required the skill of a master hand to touch the various chords of feeling which, this day, vibrate in your bosoms and throughout our town; yet I well believed, that in the kindness and partiality which prompted the unanimous solicitation of your Committee to me, I should find consideration for the manner in which the duty was performed. You could have selected no one who has more cause to be proud of the history of your Corps; no one who experiences more pleasure and delight, while tracing its rise and progress; no one who rejoices more over its present flourishing and prosperous condition, nor has stronger hereditary regard for its welfare and perpetuity. If, to recall the days of our boyhood—the scenes of our youth; if, to wander back with memory, and find pleasure in these reminiscences, then, I well know, there are many, very many, in this assembly, whose bosoms swell, as does that of your speaker, with a thousand emotions, which struggle for utterance, and silence would be eloquence. There is perhaps not a father or mother present, who has not associations connected with your Company, of the dearest and holiest character. There is scarcely an old and respected inhabitant of our town, whose name may not be found on your muster rolls, and whose heart does not beat faster, and his blood circulate more quickly, as he hears the sound of your drum and fife circling our streets on your days of parade.

Well do I recollect, when a boy, the feelings with which I anticipated the day when I could take a place in the ranks of the Independent Company. With what pleasure my musket was shouldered; and it was with no ordinary satisfaction my name was found on your list of Honorary

Members. Speaking for them, may I not say, should occasion demand and our country call for your services, they would join your ranks, and stand ready to protect and defend your honored flag.

Every thing around us, and through our town, bespeaks the interest which this Anniversary has awakened. Those kind, liberal and friendly feelings which, as members of the same community, all should cherish, have been poured out on this occasion, and the hearts of our citizens are joined together, as the heart of one man, to testify their respect and veneration for your ancient Association.

Many of your old, retired and valued Members are present; and it was hoped that he, who is alone the survivor of those who formed the Corps, would have added to the interest of this occasion by his presence.

In the hallowed associations which this day recalls, they indulge, no doubt, with pride and exultation.

Our young, spirited and beautiful Corps of Fayetteville Riflemen, our highly esteemed and praiseworthy Mechanic Benevolent Society, the respected Police of our Town, and our newly-established Lodge of Ancient Independent Order of Odd Fellows, have honored you with their attendance.

Our fair country women, too, grace the occasion. Their virtues adorn and dignify all situations, ameliorate and soften all the cares and trials of life, and in their approbation and smile the Soldier finds his most delightful reward. Among them are to be found some of the ladies of your early honored and late respected Commanders and Officers. Some, too, are indeed mothers in Israel; their sons and grand sons have been found in your ranks, and may it not be, that from them has been imbibed that valued principle of subordination,—best taught and learned at a kind mother's knee,—which has contributed no little to the prosperity and perpetuity of your Corps;—for where is the man who can ever forget the wise precepts, or, while life is spared, can cease to remember with reverence and affection, the early lessons of maternal tenderness and love.

In your behalf, I bid them all welcome; thrice welcome on this joyous occasion. The fountain of pleasure from which you drink is full, full to the brim, and copious enough that they may partake largely; their presence crowns your joy, and affords new objects for the exercise of your hospitality and kindness.

In tracing the history of our ancient and honorable Corps,—ancient, for, excepting two and may be three, it is the oldest Volunteer Association in the United States; honorable, for its escutcheon is untarnished,—time would fail and your patience be wearied, were I to enter too much into detail. There are many, very many, incidents connected with your

x Capt. Jacob Hartman, of Steubenville,
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history, calculated to excite deep interest and awaken the most pleasing associations. Our Company has had her days of trial, periods of gloom and despondency, as well as days of prosperity, and periods of bright and exalted anticipation.

Our Association dates as far back as August 23, 1793. The early Records of the Company were indifferently kept, and many have been lost.

The particular reasons for the formation of the Corps are not set out in the Articles of the Association. It is supposed to have had its origin in the apprehensions which existed at the period of the French Revolution,—that mighty convulsion, which shook Europe to its centre, and amazed the civilized world. England and France were belligerent powers, and our rights suffering aggression. Our country was excited, and no one could tell but that this nation would be drawn into the vortex. The motto of the Company would seem to confirm this tradition, “He that hath no stomach for the fight, let him depart.” Be it so or not, reasons sufficiently cogent may no doubt be found, in love of country, regard for the safety of the government, the welfare and peace of the community, and in that wise and prudent determination, which is part of the duty and should therefore be part of the education of every citizen in a Republican government, that his country, when need requires, should find in every citizen a soldier. The list of those who were present at the formation of the Company cannot be found. The three first names to the Articles of the Association are Robert Adam, John Winslow, and Robert Cochran; and the Commissioned Officers first elected were Robert Adam, Captain; John Winslow, Lieutenant, and Robert Cochran, Ensign. They were at first elected for four months; but at a meeting held August 23, 1794, on motion of Isaac Hawley, in the language of his resolution, “the term was enlarged to twelve months; the Non-Commissioned Officers were to depend on the appointment of the Captain, who was empowered to make the same.” A strict regard in the “Rules and Regulations” was had “to keep a necessary conformity to the Militia Laws of the State.”

Very early in your history, July 27, 1796, is to be found the record of a Court Martial to investigate the conduct of one of the members, and after an examination, a report was made, “that the objects of their Association being of the most praiseworthy character, ought not to be defeated by wantonness nor obstructed by malignity;” and they required a written apology, addressed to the Company, and on payment of all dues and arrearages, the individual would be permitted to resign. Thus affording testimony to their successors, that the welfare of the Association depends on the character and deportment of the members as well when off as on parade,

This evidence has been respected and their example followed; for, throughout your Records, many instances are observable where members have been expelled when found unworthy by a majority of the Company.

In 1798, Samuel Goodwin was elected Ensign. The strength of the Company was then about 29, and Isaac Hawley appears to have been the Orderly Sergeant. Ensign Goodwin removed subsequently from this place to Raleigh, and there died.

In 1800, John McMillan was elected Ensign. With these changes, the Commissioned Officers were the same until 23d August, 1801.

Captain Adam died at the Sound, near Wilmington, June 11, 1801. On receiving intelligence of his death, the Company assembled at the State House, (as the building which occupied the spot our Town Hall now covers, was called in those days,) "for the purpose of agreeing on the most eligible mode of going into mourning for the loss of their worthy Captain, Robert Adam. It was agreed that they should meet at that place at 10 o'clock, the drum beating half an hour previously, six successive Sundays, with music playing, consisting of drum and flute; that they should wear the uniform, with bayonet, belt, and crape on the left arm above the elbow; they were to march to the Church, sit together as near as possible, and after hearing Divine Service, march to the place where they met, and be dismissed." This example of respect for a fellow soldier, though not in detail, has been followed, and the body of a late companion in arms is always attended to the grave, over which a soldier's regard and respect is paid, unless objection be made by the friends of the departed. Mr. Adam held the post of Captain for eight years; was by birth a Scotchman; the perfect gentleman; one of our first and most successful merchants, remarkable for his popularity among those with whom he traded;—no man has ever occupied a more exalted place in the estimation and regard of the citizens of Fayetteville.

August 23, 1801, John Winslow was elected Captain; John McMillan, Lieutenant; Isaac Hawley, Ensign.

These gentlemen continued Officers of the Company until August 23, 1806; and, between 1801 and 1806, it appears that many persons were admitted, but as no muster rolls can be found, the strength of the Company cannot be ascertained. Ensign Hawley resigned in 1806, and died in this place in 1808, much respected.

August 23, 1806, John McMillan was elected Captain; John Matthews, Lieutenant; Duncan McRae, Ensign.

In the year 1807, our country came near being thrown into a war with Great Britain. An attack was made on a vessel of War of the United States, called the Chesapeake, as was believed, by order of that Gov-

ernment, in the exercise of the right of search; a right claimed by Great Britain, but denied by the United States. The country was in arms. As evidence of the feeling which existed on the occasion of this outrage, I give you an extract from an eloquent letter written by a gentleman who occupied a high place in the estimation of the citizens of our Town, William Duffy. He was an accomplished lawyer, a man of fine literary taste, and acquired, says Archibald D. Murphy, another distinguished son of our State, a more elegant style of composition, than any of his cotemporaries in North Carolina. He was the representative of this Borough in the Legislature of the State, at an important Session, when the Judiciary System was revised and altered. The citizens of our Town held a meeting on the occasion. Mr. Duffy was absent on his circuit, and his letter was addressed to Captain McMillan. In the first part of it, he regrets his absence from the Town meeting, in which, he says, he would have joined with ardor; and after giving his views of the transaction, goes on to say:

“My opinion, therefore is, that the late outrage committed on the Chesapeake is not, nor ought to be considered as the act of an Admiral or Captain, but as the act of the British Government. In any event, whether this opinion be well or ill founded, I think we ought to be prepared to act. I have trespassed perhaps on your patience. My apology must be, that every American citizen, who feels at heart the honor of his country, will on this subject unavoidably get warm. Suffer me to present to you the object of this address. I have never hitherto been called on to perform military duty. Exempted perhaps from courtesy, perhaps from a claim to exemption, of which I have no desire to make any use, I feel it my duty now, while I think war unavoidable, to set my seal of approbation to the cause of my country; to declare that in all my sentiments I am an American, and to offer up my little fortune and life, on the altar of liberty. All divisions among ourselves should cease. All parties ought unanimously to join in supporting the common cause. I have observed with pleasure, the gallant manner in which your Company, composed of gentlemen with all of whom I am acquainted, has offered itself as a Volunteer Corps under the late proclamation of the President of the United States. And as I wish to be useful, I solicit the honor of being admitted a private in the ranks of the Fayetteville Independent Company, pledging myself that I will turn out at a moment's warning, and act as will become an American soldier.”

Mr. Duffy was unanimously admitted a member of the Company. He remained a citizen of our Town for some years after, and subsequently removed to Chatham county, where he closed his life. The proceedings of the Town meeting I have not been able to find. The Independent

Company, at a meeting held July 23, 1807, had passed the following resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, That we very much admire, and highly approve, of the dignified, manly, and independent sentiments contained in the late proclamation of the President of the United States; and having observed that he has ordered the raising of 100,000 Militia, to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning, and it is his pleasure to accept Volunteers to compose a part thereof,

Resolved, unanimously, That the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company, Officers and Soldiers, voluntarily tender their services, with this declaration: that although, as citizens, they highly appreciate the blessings of peace, yet, as citizen soldiers, they are ever ready to avenge an insult offered to their country, by any nation whatever, and pledge themselves to be ready, whenever called upon, for the defence of such measures as may be adopted by the Government.

Resolved, unanimously, That Capt. McMillan forward copies of these resolutions to the President of the United States, the Secretary of War, the Executive of this State, and to the Brigadier General of our Division, and that they be published in the Fayetteville Advertiser.

(Signed)

DUNCAN THOMPSON, Sec'y.

Such, Fellow Soldiers, was the spirit which, in 1807, animated the body of which you are members; such was the legacy of patriotic feeling they have left behind. See that with you, that love of country, that fire of patriotism, does not become extinguished.

August 23, 1810, John Matthews was elected Captain; Duncan McRae, Lieutenant; William McLennan, Ensign.

Captain McMillan withdrew from the Company in 1810. He had been the Commander for four years; was the Secretary of the Company in 1796, and his accounts were beautifully kept. He was one of our leading and most respectable merchants—liberal, hospitable and kind. He died in this place in the year 1820, a loss to our Town.

About this period the ranks of the Company became thin. Very few were found on parade, and it was a period of gloomy foreboding as to its existence. Capt. Matthews resigned as a member of the Company in 1811, having accepted the appointment of Judge Advocate of the Regiment, and died in this place in 1826, a useful and much respected citizen.

Lieutenant McRae remained a member of the Company. No record is found of his resignation. He continued to live a valued member of our community. He held the office of Postmaster for a great many years, and until his resignation. Subsequently, was the Cashier of one of our Banks; was remarkable for the strict integrity with which he fulfilled those

trusts; was emphatically an honest man, and closed his earthly career in the bosom of a large and estimable family, Feb. 10, 1837.

August 23, 1810, John Winslow was elected Captain; Wm. Barry Grove, Lieutenant; John Eccles, Ensign.

Vigorous measures were adopted to resuscitate the Company, and a resolution was passed, that they should be ordered out five times regularly in the year, thus manifesting a revival of zeal and interest in its welfare and prosperity.

A period now occurs in the history of the Company, fraught with deep interest. The conduct of her members at that time, has handed their names down to us with a lustre which brightens as years roll away. The spirit of 1807 was found unextinguished; the fire on the altar of liberty burned brilliantly and brightly; our country was at war with the most powerful nation on earth; her dearest rights had been invaded. In this good old North State, we had heard of war—accounts had reached us of its desolating effects in other parts of the country, and we had perused with pride, intelligence of victory and glory secured by American arms on land and sea; but we could scarcely realize the fact, and were slow to believe, that our State was in danger of invasion. Yet such was the case. Information reached the Executive of the State, that the fleet of the enemy hovered on the coast of North Carolina; that they had effected a landing, and would make an effort to do so again. Orders were issued to draft a body of the militia for the defence of the Coast and our sister Town of Wilmington, the most important port in the State.

The Independent Company held a meeting, and resolved that their quota of the draft should be furnished by hiring substitutes, and the expense be divided equally among the members, and tendered their services as Volunteers to Brigadier Gen. Davis, and from him they received orders to march to Wilmington. As evidence of their promptness and alacrity, I give you an extract from a letter of General Davis to Governor Hawkins. "I have the honor to inform your Excellency, that I have so far succeeded in executing your orders, that as early as Wednesday morning last, the Independent Company, consisting of about 40, proceeded to Wilmington. They were in high spirits, and completely equipped. Munitions of war were sent with them. Cheerfulness, combined with celerity of movement in this Company, augur well."

On the 19th day of July, a meeting was held for the purpose of making arrangements for their departure. Committees were appointed to procure provisions, provide wagons, and all things necessary for the use of the Company. A sum of \$5 was levied on each man, and every thing indicated a speedy and prompt march.

July 21, 1813, the day fixed for the departure, arrived. Heretofore, the sound of their music awakened naught but pleasing associations. Now the shrill note of the fife, and the roll of the drum, fell heavy on the ear, and caused many a heart to sink.

Something of the calamity of war was experienced. Anxiety and concern sat on the countenances of our citizens. It was so. The Independent Company were to leave their homes, and all that on earth is dear, to face an invading foe, and at a season of the year when the most gloomy apprehensions of disease might be realized. Go they must,—go they will. Wives, children, mothers, brothers, sisters and friends, are all left behind. It is not believed, it is barely possible, that all who go will return. Some may fall the victims of disease, or beneath the foe-man's arm. *Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori.*

The number who left for Wilmington was 37. I give you the list of their names, Fellow Soldiers, which it becomes you to preserve and hand down with the records of your Corps:

Lieutenant William Barry Grove; Ensign, John Eccles; 1st Sergeant, John Smith; 2d do., John Kennedy; 3d do., John Huske; 1st Corporal, John R. Adam; 2d do., Chas. P. Mallett; 3d do., James Baker;—Privates, Lewis Barge, Nathan Branson, William Broadfoot, Neill Buie, John Jarrott, Joseph W. King, William Lumsden, Archibald McLean, Evander McIver, Roderick McIntosh, Duncan McNeill, John McPhaul, Thomas McRackan, Martin McPherson, John Murchison, Alexander McGilvary, John McKinnon, Daniel Munn, Bethel Oglesby, Charles Rhodes, Peter Smith, Samuel Salmon, Duncan Thompson, Cyrus P. Tillinghast, Calvin Weeks, William Beatty, Thos. Maxwell, W. T. Cole, Archibald Taylor, and John L. Hadley, who volunteered on the occasion.

Some few of the members were absent from home when the Company concluded to march. Those who did not go were Messrs. Duncan McRae, John McRae, John W. Wright, William H. Bowen, and Charles Broadfoot;—they were, for reasons entirely satisfactory, excused from attending the Company on this expedition; and such was the feeling and deep regret with some of these, that, it has been often said, as the boat, which carried their companions in arms, left the landing, tears were observed to flow. Who can tell, fellow citizens—who can describe the feelings which clustered around that boat? Who can count the prayers which were offered for the protection, preservation and safe return of her honored and valued crew?

The Captain of the Company, at this period, was absent from home on business of a public nature. While in the City of New York, a townsman, one who was a brother soldier and had been the Ensign of the

Company, William McLennan, was confined to a sick bed, and required the attentions of a friend, without whose aid he would never again have been cheered with the sight of his friends and the comforts of home. These services were gladly and cheerfully afforded; and their arrival at Fayetteville was thus delayed until after the Company returned from a service to which they were unexpectedly called. Ensign McLennan died very soon after, the victim of Consumption. He was a practical and therefore useful man, and his loss was deplored by the community.

The command of the Company devolved on Lieutenant Grove. He was not so skilled in military affairs as Ensign Eccles, but with that generosity of character, those kind and liberal feelings which ever distinguished him, anxious only for the reputation and comfort of the Corps, finding in Ensign Eccles a good disciplinarian—prompt, energetic, decided—understanding well the duties of the march and the camp—having the confidence and respect of the men, he threw on him the responsibility of the command. While Lieutenant Grove, with that ready wit, cheerful and lively flow of spirits, fine store of story and anecdote, dispersed many a cloud, gladdened many a sad heart, and won the affections of all. The Company remained in Wilmington until the 14th of August, partaking largely of the well known kindness and hospitality of the citizens of our sister Town, particularly that of Robert Cochran. Mr. Cochran's name was the third to the Articles of Association, and he was the first Ensign of the Company. He had changed residence from this place to Wilmington some years previously. He greeted the arrival of his old associates in arms as a brother soldier; was in every way studious of their comfort, and his bosom swelled with emotions of joy and patriotism at their display of valor and love of country.

You will pardon a passing tribute of respect to the memory of Ensign Cochran. I knew him well; he had qualifications for a great man, and wielded an extensive influence at this time. Silent, unobtrusive, always calm and dignified in manner, with a politeness of character which distinguished the gentlemen of that day, with a kindness of heart often experienced by your speaker, he commanded respect wherever he was known. In one regard, Mr. Cochran's character was well worthy of imitation by all: he was never known, through a chequered and eventful life, by his most intimate friends, or by his family, ever to have indulged in a remark calculated in the least degree to wound the feelings or injure the character of any individual. Can as much be said of us, Fellow Soldiers? He died in this place, May 1842, and by your Records, you paid to his memory the tribute of a Soldier's regard and respect.

A large number of the Militia of this part of the State were collected at

Wilmington, and some were stationed on the Coast. The Executive of the State was there, and the Independent Company acted as his body-guard. The enemy made no landing, though rumors were rife that they were seen hovering along the Coast, and the Troops were kept in readiness for such an event.

The deportment of the members of the Independent Company, individually, as gentlemen, was the subject of high commendation; while their martial appearance, the spirit of subordination as Soldiers, their discipline, the promptness and precision with which their evolutions were performed, was the admiration of all who saw them.

Having received orders from Gen. Brown, on the 15th of August they commenced their march towards home, with "light hearts," as the Record expresses it, and reached Fayetteville on the 19th day of the month, having been absent twenty-nine days.

They were joined four miles from town by those members who had been compelled to remain at home, and at the Town line were met by the Town Militia, under the command of Captain Henderson, and the Town Fencibles, under command of Capt. Cockburn, and by them "ushered into Town with great pomp," and after parading the principal streets, were dismissed.

The following letter was addressed to Lieutenant Wm. Barry Grove, and is evidence, honorable to the Company, of their conduct on this occasion:

"To Lieut. W. B. Grove: Sir—I am commanded by his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the State of North Carolina, to express, through you, to the Officers and Privates of your Company, the very high approbation which they merit, and which they have met with, for their prompt and soldier-like march to one of the vulnerable points of our State when it was invaded. And to his Excellency it is a high gratification that all composing your Company have done all that could be expected from Officers and Soldiers. Stimulated by this laudable example, it is confidently hoped the Militia of the State of North Carolina will derive much benefit.

"On your arrival in the Town of Fayetteville, you will dismiss from duty the members composing your Company.

"I am, with much regard, your obedient servant,

"F. N. W. BURTON, Aid, &c."

It was cause of profound gratitude and thankfulness, that all who had left their homes returned with safety, when the unaccustomed exposure to which they were subjected was remembered, and the season of the year that in which, with all care and precaution, we are so liable to disease,

They were, fellow citizens, in the discharge of an imperative and solemn duty; and when thus found, we may well trust to the guardian care of Him who rules the destinies of individuals, as well as that of the nations of the earth.

Various meetings of the Company were held after their return, to wind up the expedition to Wilmington. The proceedings of all are particularly recorded. At one, I find, that on motion of Sergeant Huske, whose services on this Excursion were remembered by all with gratitude and thankfulness, it was *Resolved*, That the pay of the Officers and Privates, for their personal services, should be first paid them; the remainder, which was allowed for rations, baggage wagons, &c., should be divided equally among the 37 who were in actual service and the 10 exempts who contributed to their outfit. On motion of Ensign Eccles, Sergeants Huske and Smith were appointed a Committee to settle the claims, and John W. Wright appointed Paymaster. Sergeant Huske acted as the Commissary of the Company, and discharged its duties in a highly satisfactory manner. He was appointed and acted also as the Aid of Major General Brown. He retired from the Company some years ago, and is now a resident of our Town.

Thus closed the Excursion to Wilmington; a bright page in your history, which time but renders more and more illustrious.

The patriotism of this part of North Carolina had, in Revolutionary days, been much questioned. Who doubted it in 1807? Who questioned it in 1813? Who would doubt it now? and who will dare question it while the Independent Company maintains the character they have earned?

As evidence, Fellow Soldiers, of the honorable and liberal feeling which reigned in the ranks of the Company at this period, it was found that the substitutes hired by the Company had been retained in service six months, instead of three, the period for which they were procured. A meeting of the Company was called, and on motion of Ensign Eccles, a further remuneration was ordered to be made, and the Captain ordered to make such addition to their pay as he deemed proper.

In 1816, John Leonard was elected Ensign; the other Commissioned Officers the same. On the 23d of August, 1816, Lieutenant Grove tendered his resignation; the Company refused to accept it, and a Committee was appointed to reply to the Letter of Lieutenant Grove. The ranks of the Company were, about this period, very full; more than 100 were enrolled. A muster seldom passed without several applications for admission; and on one occasion I find 32 applicants, 4 of whom were rejected and 28 admitted.

August 23, 1817, the same Commissioned Officers were elected, except

that John W. Wright was elected 3d Lieutenant, in place of John Smith, and John R. Adam Ensign, in place of John Leonard.

Lieutenant Smith died in 1816, beloved by his fellow soldiers and regretted by all the community; and Ensign Leonard retired from the Company in 1818, and is a resident of our Town.

In 1818, Lieutenant Grove died, having held the post of First Lieutenant from the time of his appointment in 1811. The Company paid to his memory the customary evidence of regard and respect. He was a distinguished citizen of our Town; represented the District to which Cumberland County was then attached in the Congress of the United States, with honor to himself and the State. He was the first President of the Branch of the Bank of the United States in this place, and continued so until his death. Warm, generous, patriotic, ardent in his feelings, he was greatly beloved by all who knew him. His dwelling was always the seat of hospitality, and his memory will long be cherished by this community.

August 23d, 1818, John W. Wright was elected 2d Lieutenant, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Lieutenant Grove, and James Townes elected Ensign, in place of John R. Adam, elected 3d Lieutenant. With these changes, the Commissioned Officers were the same.

August 23d, 1819, Captain Winslow and Lieutenant Eccles tendered their resignations, and having, as the Record has it, stated explicitly, they would serve no longer, John W. Wright was elected Captain; John R. Adam, 1st Lieutenant; James Townes, 2d Lieutenant; James Baker, 3d Lieutenant, and William Broadfoot, Ensign.

Captain Winslow was first elected in 1801, and remained in the command until August 23d, 1806. Was elected again in August, 1811, and resigned in 1819. He died in this place November 30th, 1820, and the Company united in paying to his memory the customary mark of respect and regard.—[*See Appendix.*]

Lieutenant Eccles lived amongst us for many years, commanding the cordial respect of the community, and occupied in works of usefulness and benevolence. He died September 20th, 1833, one of our oldest and most respected citizens. Lieutenant Eccles was a man of sound judgment and vigorous mind; had been eminently successful as a merchant; remarkable for his great uprightness of character, great philanthropy of feeling, and his unostentatious benevolence. In his death, the poor and distressed of our Town lost a friend.

The fathers of our Company had now left it, and most of them passed away. Its existence—its well-earned character and high reputation—were committed to the care and support of a succeeding generation. Venerable and beloved men! long will we cherish the recollection

of your virtues! "*Semper honos nomen que tuum laudes que manebunt.*"

It is well worthy of remark and remembrance, Fellow Soldiers, that from the period of the formation of the Company to this date, no evidence can be found of the existence of any other than the kindest feeling. They appeared banded together by an almost fraternal tie; every man seemed to feel as if the honor and character of the Corps was in his individual keeping. Cherish this feeling, Fellow Soldiers; cultivate this rich inheritance; and let us, descendants of those who have closed their earthly pilgrimage, strive to emulate their virtues, and be ever ready to manifest our respect and regard for those who remain.

Our ancestors, Fellow Soldiers, were not indifferent to the comforts and good things of this life;

"Alike for fight and feast prepared,
Battle and banquet both they shared."

While on no occasion they neglected their appropriate duties, and ever maintained the character of Soldiers and gentlemen, the following entry closed the record of most of their Parades. After performing whatever duty they were called to discharge, "they repaired to the "Cool Spring," partook of some refreshment," and dismissed; and seldom an Anniversary passed without a "splendid Dinner or Supper."

There are some reminiscences connected with our Company and the "Cool Spring," which I cannot omit to bring to your notice. They have been rescued from oblivion by a beautiful article which appeared some years ago, and from which I extract: "It is a spot well known in our Town, but much more familiarly known in days that are passed. It was the centre of the court end of Cross Creek during the War of Independence, and for years the fashionable promenade. Alas! we boast of no such spot now;

"Times are altered; Trade's unfeeling train
Usurp the land, and dispossess the Swain;"

And the article goes on to say, that "if the water-spouts of the fountain could spout forth words as they do water, what tales of olden times might they not tell us; of gay revels and jocund jests; the love scrapes of our grandams and grand sires; and of the stirring incidents of the first settlement of Fayetteville. Hard by dwelt a descendant of the princely Pocahontas; and we doubt not that the famous Flora McDonald and her highland lasses oft quenched their thirst at this limpid fountain.

"Here was the rendezvous of our ancient Independent Company; and never muster or parade passed without a visit to the fountain. Cool as were its waters, there was always something to mingle with it in their

cups and to sweeten the draught; and faith, the mad wags often carried their frolics to excess." Though no record so speaks, it was rather understood to be the duty of the Orderly Sergeant to provide something good, lest after the fatigue of marching, the cold water might prove injurious;—a custom long since abolished, and perhaps more honored in the breach than in the observance.

There is a touching incident connected with our Corps and this spot. "Old Isaac Hammonds for more than a score had been one of the Musicians; at last Time touched Isaac, and when he had breath to fill his fife no longer, he himself ceased to breathe. On his death bed he begged them to lay him and his fife on the bank of the stream opposite the Spring. "I shall, may be, hear the drum and fife of the Company every parade day, when the men throng at the Spring, and the sound will gladden me in the long, long sleep of the Tomb." And they digged his grave where he desired. No stone was placed to mark the spot over which volley after volley told that the last military honors were paid to a dead comrade.

"How soon forgotten be the dead,
Who in their silent graves are laid;
He who lies there asked nothing more
Than burial on that silent shore,
Deeming, illusively and vain,
He yet might list to martial strain;
Unconscious that with fleeting life,
Ends war and woe and sin and strife;—
He lies there lonely and alone,
His grave unmarked by mound or stone."

Cool Spring and Cross Creek have of late years been neglected. They are seldom visited, except, perhaps, as we pass them by in paying the last sad offices of respect to some departed friend. In the march of improvement, Cool Spring has been superceded by the Fountain of Hay Mount, whose proud summit, crowned with her noble Arsenal and beautiful grounds, her groves of oak and splendid residences, eclipse the lowly yet venerated Cross Creek. "*Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis.*"

At the Session of the Legislature of North Carolina in 1819, on motion of John Stanly, whose elevated and distinguished standing in the State is well known, it was *Resolved*, That the Governor be and he is hereby authorized and empowered to commission the Officers of the Independent Company of Fayetteville with the following rank: The Captain, with the rank of Major; and the Lieutenants and Ensign, with the rank of Captain, so long as the Corps shall continue to hold itself armed and equipped, agreeably to the tenor of its rules and regulations.

Mr. Stanly prefaced the introduction of this Resolution with some explanations, in the course of which he is said to have remarked, they were a Corps "every man of whom was fit to stand by Cæsar and give direction."

The passage of this Resolution had the effect of removing a difficulty which existed with regard to the post of the Company in line at Regimental Parades; and was a highly honorable and gratifying return for the gallant and prompt manner in which they had tendered their services and marched to the defence of the State.

At this same Session of the Legislature, an Act was passed organizing a Corps of Artillery in Fayetteville. This Corps was raised mainly by Col. Stevens, who was an excellent and experienced Officer, and who, during his residence in our Town, won the confidence and regard of all who knew him. He died in the fatal Fall of 1822. The Battalion continued for some years after his death, and their martial appearance is well remembered by all who witnessed their Parades.

The Companies composing that Battalion have long since been disbanded; and until the formation of the very handsome and respectable Corps of Fayetteville Riflemen, who have honored and adorned this occasion with their presence, the Independent Company has been the only Volunteer Association.

From 1819, the Commander of the Company was distinguished by the title of Major, and the other Commissioned Officers, Captains.

August 23d, 1821, James Townes was elected 1st Captain, in the place of John R. Adam; James Baker 2d Captain, Wm. Broadfoot 3d Captain, and Robert Strange 4th Captain.

In the year 1821, Captain Townes retired from the Company; subsequently he left the State of North Carolina, and is now a resident of Tennessee.

August 23d, 1822, Robert Strange was elected 1st Captain, James Baker 2d Captain, William Broadfoot 3d Captain, and James H. Hooper 4th Captain. At this meeting Captain Adam resigned; he subsequently removed from this place, and died in the West Indies. Captains Baker and Broadfoot about this year retired from the Company. The former still has his residence in our Town; the latter some years ago removed from North Carolina, and now resides in the State of Mississippi.

August 23d, 1823, Major Wright, in a handsome address, resigned his office of Major Commandant, and Captain Strange was elected to the command. James H. Hooper 1st Captain, John McKay Strong 2d Captain, William L. Hawley 3d Captain, and Robert McIntyre 4th Captain. At this meeting a Committee was appointed to express to Major Wright the Company's approbation of his conduct as an Officer, and the

high respect they entertain for him as their late Commander; and at a subsequent meeting, a Committee was appointed to present him a Gold Medal, with appropriate devices. Under Major Wright's command, the ranks of the Company were full; they were well drilled, had performed a tour of duty in Camp, and he left them in a high state of prosperity.

In March, 1825, the Company, under the command of Major Strange, had the honor of acting as the body-guard of the good and great Lafayette, who visited our Town that year. They had, by a resolution, tendered their services to the Committee appointed to make arrangements for his reception, and those services were accepted.

Major Strange continued in command until 1826, the Company enjoying its usual prosperity.

From 1826 to 1828 the Records are very defective. Captain Hooper succeeded Major Strange. He died in this place June 1841. The Company attended his remains to the grave, and on record handsome and appropriate Resolutions may be found, which met a response in every bosom.

August 23d, 1828, Captain Strong was elected Major; William L. Hawley 1st Captain, Robert McIntyre 2d Captain, E. L. Winslow 3d Captain, and Robert T. Goodwin 4th Captain.

August 23d, 1830, Major Strong resigned, leaving no change in the prosperity of the Corps. Captain Hawley was elected Major; Robert McIntyre 1st Captain, Robert T. Goodwin 2d Captain, Dillon Jordan, Jr. 3d Captain, and Henry McLean 4th Captain.

During Major Strong's command, the Company performed a tour of Camp duty; at the close, they were received at the Town line and escorted home by the Battalion of Artillery, under the command of Major Birdsall, consisting of three Companies, one of horse and two of foot, making a "splendid appearance." Such was the military spirit in our Town about that time, and so well drilled were our different Companies, that a gentleman who had travelled extensively, after being here a short time, exclaimed, "Gibraltar, sir, Gibraltar; this must be a garrison Town."

Captain McIntyre resigned in 1832, and died in December 1835, and was buried with the usual mark of respect by the Company. Major Hawley continued in command of the Company until his death, June 1834. The Commissioned Officers during his command were those last named, except that William J. Anderson was elected 4th Captain in 1832; and William F. Strange, on the promotion of Captain Anderson, was elected 4th Captain in 1833. Captain Anderson resigned in April 1834, and on the promotion of Captain Strange, Sergeant Munn was elected 4th Captain.

Captain Jordan resigned as a member of the Company in 1833, having been appointed Adjutant of the Regiment; and subsequently removed from Fayetteville to Florida, where he now resides.

Major Hawley was a good officer, popular among the men, and dignified in his deportment on Parade. The Company continued, under his command, united and prosperous. They were joined, so says the Record, by the Staff and Line Officers of the Artillery Corps in paying to his remains the customary marks of respect. Resolutions were adopted, expressive of their recollection of the many generous and ennobling traits of character which endeared the friend and elevated the superior; their unfeigned regret at the early death of their esteemed Commander and companion in arms; and further resolved to wear the usual badge of mourning for sixty days.

August 23d, 1834, Captain Goodwin was elected Major; Henry McLean 1st Captain, Wm. F. Strange 2d Captain, John Munn 3d Captain, and Benjamin W. Robinson 4th Captain.

At this meeting, I find the following Preamble and Resolution introduced by Sergeant Robinson, alike creditable to the head and heart of the mover. Through the whole Records of the Company, it is the only occasion on which any evidence of unpleasant feeling appears to have existed; and the introduction of this Preamble and Resolution was intended by the mover as a matter of prevention and caution:

“WHEREAS, on the harmony of feeling existing among its members, the welfare of our Association depends: And whereas, the introduction of dissension in our ranks must eventuate in the disorganization of the Corps:

“Resolved, That we most sincerely deprecate and condemn all expressions having a tendency to introduce party strife amongst us, and that we regard with the deepest indignation the avowal of sentiments calculated to alienate the fellowship and disturb the social feeling which has ever characterized this Corps.”

The Preamble and Resolution was unanimously adopted.

Captain Robinson in 1835 resigned, and was unanimously admitted an Honorary member.

August 23d, 1835, the same Commissioned Officers were elected; Thomas Cochran being elected 4th Captain to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Captain Robinson.

April 29, 1837, Major Goodwin, and Captains Strange and Munn, resigned, and were elected Honorary Members. The two first have changed their residences from our Town, and are engaged in honorable and useful pursuits.

An election being held in May of the same year, to fill these vacancies, Captain McLean was elected Major; Thomas Cochran 1st Captain, John H. Cook 2d Captain, Archibald McLean 3d Captain, and Alfred A. McKethan 4th Captain.

And in February, 1838, John H. Cook was elected 1st Captain, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Captain Cochran, who met his fate in a land of strangers, away from his home and his friends. A. McLean, Jr. was elected 2d Captain, A. A. McKethan 3d Captain, and A. M. Campbell 4th Captain.

August 22d, 1840, Major McLean tendered his resignation. He was, however, with the same Commissioned Officers, continued in the command, and a Committee appointed to respond to his letter of resignation. In February, 1842, his resignation was again offered and accepted, and, as the Record states, he was by acclamation elected an Honorary Member. The thanks of the Company were tendered to him for his long and faithful services as their Commander; a Committee appointed to carry out the resolution, and to express the feelings of the Company in regard to his resignation. The letter is spread on the Minutes, highly creditable to the Committee, and matter of high gratification to the very estimable and worthy recipient;—for under Major McLean's command, the Company fully maintained its numbers and respectability.

The present Commissioned Officers are, John H. Cook, Major; Archibald McLean 1st Captain, A. A. McKethan 2d Captain, A. M. Campbell 3d Captain, and James Sundy 4th Captain. They were elected in February, 1842. Under their command, considerable accession has been made to the ranks; the muster roll now numbering 70, and the number under arms this day about 55.

The appearance of the Corps for the year past, well drilled as they are, and the admirable manner in which their evolutions are performed, the number under arms, and their martial bearing, affords the most gratifying evidence that they have lost none of their ancient spirit; and holds out the pleasing anticipation, that they will continue to be, as they have been, the pride and admiration of their countrymen.

Thus, Fellow Soldiers, at the risk of exhausting the patience of this valued auditory, I have given you a sketch of the history of our ancient and honorable Corps. Various changes in your Bye Laws are spoken of throughout your Records; all wise, no doubt. Your Uniform has been altered and improved as time, experience, and taste has suggested. Your body stands, as it were, a connecting link between the past and present. FIFTY YEARS this day completed—a half century rolled away—since your formation! What changes have taken place in our

Town! Where are those who were present at the organization of the Corps? Where are those who, from year to year, have filled your ranks? Gone! Passed away as though they had never been! Mutability is written on all sublunary things! The flower that blushed with beauty and sweetness to meet the rays of the sun in his coming, bows its head, droops and dies, ere that glorious luminary of day sinks behind the Western horizon! Most impressively should this important and solemn lesson be written on our hearts,—be made to exercise its legitimate control over our lives,—that when we shall be the subjects of this great change, we may be found ready!

Old age is honorable; particularly is it so, if it has laid up in store a life of faithful and conscientious discharge of duty. We seldom find an active frame enclosing an elastic and vigorous mind; the freshness of youth with the inseparable companions of age. With you, however, after the lapse of fifty years, no marks of age or decay are discoverable. The vigor and activity of youth is yours; and your zeal, your soldier-like appearance, your respectability and character, are as florid and green as the day you sprung into existence.

The objects of your Association have been all, thus far, faithfully fulfilled. I know not a spot that sullies your history. You have enlivened and cheered our Town by your martial appearance; you have been ever ready to aid and adorn, by your presence, those displays of respect and attention indicated by your fellow citizens. Every return of the glorious Anniversary of our country's Independence, and the birth-day of him whom "Providence had made childless that the nation might call him Father," have been hailed by you with respect and attention.

You have been the guardians of the peace of the community; prompt to obey the calls of the proper authority to suppress any infraction or assist in the due administration of the laws. And when the foot of the invader was about to pollute this land of Liberty, your bosoms have been bared to defend her soil. The Flag which you have borne has waved full high advanced,—your pride, the pride of your country in peace,—and has been unfurled to the breeze, ready to reflect the "livid coruscation of the battle fire."

With most of the Banners you have borne, there are associations connected that always stir the Soldier's heart with more than ordinary feelings of pride and pleasure. In the fifty years of your existence, three have been presented to your Corps. Your first Flag came through the hands of one who was subsequently the Lady of your first Ensign, and, with the black Cockades which were a part of your original Uniform, was the handiwork of the Ladies of Fayetteville. One was presented by the Lady

of your first Commander; a second, on the 4th July, 1818, by the Lady of your second and the then Commander of the Corps; and the one under which you this day march, was presented July 4, 1832, through a Lady of our Town, to whose patriotism the Corps is indebted, says the published account, for this flattering mark of the regard of the Ladies of Fayetteville. The following Address accompanied the presentation of this Standard, and as it reflects so much credit on those whom we all delight to honor, I cannot withhold its recital:

"Citizen Soldiers: I am authorized by the Ladies of Fayetteville, to present to you this Flag, with a request that you will accept and adopt it as the Banner of your honorable Company.

"In you, we behold a corps which has, for nearly forty years, been the pride and defence of our Town; and which, in every instance, where occasion required, has manifested a readiness to maintain the Laws and Liberties of our Country, unimpaired and inviolate. 'Tis to you we look for protection in time of danger—'tis on your patriotism and valor, we rely for security in all public commotion and alarm. While the "Independent Company" continues to preserve that high, chivalrous character which hitherto has distinguished it, we shall take pride and pleasure in giving signal testimony of our respect for it.

"I now present to you this Flag, on behalf of the Ladies of Fayetteville, who feel assured that whether it shall continue to wave, as it now does, in the mild breeze of peaceful liberty, or be destined to float and ruffle 'mid storms of war, it will remain honored and unsullied under the protection of your arms."

This beautiful and appropriate Address was handsomely responded to by Major Hawley, then commanding the Company, and Ensign Strange received and welcomed the Flag in an eloquent Address.

On this occasion, says the Record, two of the original members of the Company, out of the three then living, were present. Since then two have died, and there is but one now living.*

The number who have joined the Company since its formation cannot with accuracy be ascertained. Certain it is there have been 1000, for the names of more than 600 may be counted. Opinions, however, are various. Some, who have a right to know, have estimated the number as high as three thousand. You have had twelve Commanders since your formation. Six have departed this life, and four of the remaining number are now present.†

Of the thirty-seven members who were in service in 1813 at Wilming-

* Jacob Hartman, who resides in our sister Town of Wilmington.

† Majors John W. Wright, John McKay Strong, Henry McLean, and Jno. H. Cook.

ton, eleven are now living.* Four are this day present with us.† To them we tender our especial homage and respect. Your valor and patriotism, honored compatriots, shall be handed down by us, your successors in this Corps, rendered illustrious by your love of country and patriotic zeal.

Citizen Soldiers: Volunteer Associations of your character are useful and necessary. In a Government like ours, standing Armies, or large bodies of regular Soldiery, should be discountenanced. In times of peace, they are unnecessary, perhaps dangerous, and certainly expensive. A sufficient force to preserve and protect indispensable works of defence, the Arsenal for the manufacture of arms and munitions of war, and to guard the frontier inhabitants, should be maintained by the General Government without stint and with a liberal hand. On the Militia of the country reliance must mainly be had, to repel invasion or quell intestine commotion. Volunteer Companies, having their ranks filled with those who have all at stake in the welfare of the community, usually well drilled, and understanding something of Military science, form a nucleus around which the Militia may concentrate, and thus become the surest and safest defence to the Republic.

Instances are not wanting to prove the importance and value of well trained Militia. Bunker Hill and Lexington, in Revolutionary days; the Frontier of Niagara in 1814; the Battle of North Point, and the glorious victory of New Orleans, will ever remain to speak the praise and importance of the Militia. And I doubt not, if opportunity had been afforded, the soil of our beloved State, the first to declare the Independence of the Colonies, would have handed down in 1813 another spot consecrated by the blood of her Citizen Soldiery.

The spirit of the age, Fellow Citizens, and the wisdom of the Government under which we have the exalted happiness to live, is emphatically that of peace. Intercourse properly regulated with all nations, entangling alliances with none, watchful vigilance over our own interests, prompt resistance to all aggression, are the true grounds of action for the United States. If we desire to avoid insult, we must at once repel it; if to secure and preserve peace—the most powerful cause of our welfare and happiness as a nation—it should be known we are always ready for war. Opposed, as a Republican Government is, to a large standing Army, the country should find in every citizen a Soldier; and in a well trained Militia,

* Messrs. John Huske, James Baker, Chas. P. Mallett, Duncan McNeill, Martin McPherson, Alexander McGilvary, Evander McIver, William Broadfoot, William Lumsden, Thomas Maxwell, and John L. Hadley.

† James Baker, Duncan McNeill, Martin McPherson, and William Lumsden.

that protection which monarchical and despotical Governments find in a hired Soldiery.

✓ From intestine commotions, in a Government like ours, a highly enlightened and well educated population is the great safeguard. For where submission to properly constituted authority is early instilled; where an atmosphere is breathed redolent with the sweets of science and learning; where Religion exercises her mild but peaceful sway; where Schools and Colleges abound, opening wide their doors to receive, train up, and send out the youth of our country, deeply imbued with a knowledge of the principles of the Government, and profoundly penetrated with the blessings it secures to them; where every avenue to wealth, distinction and usefulness, is open to the entrance and progress of all; in a word, where distinctive merit commands distinctive honor, there is no need for more than the silent but potent arm of the Law. No standing force, no hired Soldiery, is here wanted.

A happy illustration of these views has been lately furnished to our country and the world at large. I allude to the late Celebration of the completion of the Bunker Hill Monument. A distinguished functionary of the Government, in an eloquent and appropriate strain, remarks: "But the moral grandeur of the scene engrosses my whole attention. Thousands on thousands, how many thousands it is impossible to conjecture, have met me at every turn. Crowds on crowds have thronged the streets, every eye beaming with joyousness and excitement. Who elsewhere would have obstructed the paths of the carriages, were here managed peaceably and promptly by a few Marshals with a two foot wand.— There was no confusion, no disorder. Never but in Massachusetts has there been a sight like this; the wand of the officer more potent than the bristling bayonet and the loaded gun." How is this? The public Schools of the country, the Seminaries of learning, the enlightened condition of the people, the principle of subordination, learned at the mother's knee and taught in the Nursery, are the sources from whence flow this peace, this order, this refinement and elevation of human character.

This state of society is well worthy of study and imitation. Every individual should ponder on it, dwell over it, until his breast is animated, and a resolution formed and fixed, that as a member of the community, the spread of religion and learning, the improvement of society, the peace of the country, the due execution of the laws, the support of virtue and the condemnation of vice, shall ever find in him a firm heart and steady arm for their maintenance and defence.

Fellow Citizens, we have come up to-day to this Temple, dedicated to

the worship of Almighty God, and have joined in testifying the respect and regard of the community for this ancient and honorable Corps.

In truth, it is as though we had united together to recall the virtues, and awaken afresh the pleasing yet mournful recollections of our departed relatives and friends. A beautiful writer says, the sorrow for the dead is the only sorrow from which we refuse to be divorced. There is a remembrance of the dead to which we turn even from the charms of the living. From the silent and peaceful bosom of the grave spring none but fond regrets and tender recollections. Who would part with these hallowed feelings? Rather let us cherish them individually, and as a community suffer no longer that stirring evidence of forgetfulness of our departed friends, which meets our eye as we pass the public mansion of the dead, in its neglected and dilapidated condition. Let it be rescued from rude assault, strewn with the beauties of nature, and while we thus cultivate our respect and veneration for the dead, endeavor to be more faithful and affectionate in the discharge of our duties to the living.

Fellow Soldiers of the Fayetteville Independent Company: The return of this day, and all the circumstances that surround you, serve but to increase your responsibilities. The prosperity and perpetuity of your Corps is near the hearts of all present. Your welfare mainly depends on keeping alive that unanimity of feeling, that kindness, forbearance and friendship, which have thus far characterized the Company.

Those in the ranks should recognize the authority of the Officers elected to the command with readiness and cheerfulness; and the Officers should exercise the powers entrusted to them with a proper and becoming spirit. Recollect that Soldier is best qualified to command, who has best learned how to obey.

In your early history, I find it often the case, that those who were honored with a Commission returned again to the ranks; and in Associations of your character, I think the practice wise, often productive of good, and a security for the perpetuity of the Corps. Cultivate a spirit of laudable pride in the honor and reputation of the Company. Be watchful of your behaviour as a body, and of the deportment of your members as well when off as on parade. Be firm and prompt in removing from your ranks such as you know to be unworthy. Be regular in your attendance on your Musters, and neglect not your Civil Meetings. Let your fines be moderate, but strictly and impartially enforced. In a word, let each Soldier feel as if the honor of the Corps was in his individual charge. Be ever ready, as you have been, to discharge promptly your duties as Citizen Soldiers, and your Company will pass down to those who are to succeed you, as it is this day, unspotted and unsullied in

character,—worthy of the highest regard, respect and admiration. Long may it thus remain! Long may you exist, to defend, protect, enliven and adorn our Town. And when fifty years more shall be added to the past, and your Centennial Anniversary arrives, most of us who are present shall “be gathered to our fathers;”—all who hear my voice will join in the fervent petition to the great Creator and Governor of the Universe,—who stilleth the raging of the sea, the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people; who numbereth the very hairs of our head, and without whom not a sparrow falleth to the ground,—that the Independent Company may be found honored, respected and prosperous; and that the Star-spangled Banner which you unfurl,—consecrated as that Standard which you bear is to you, by female loveliness, female liberality and female patriotism,—may continue to float in every breeze, the glorious Ensign of our Republic, known and honored throughout the Earth, not a single star dimmed or obscured; under whose benign and ample folds our beloved country has found, in war, honor and safety; in peace, prosperity; and on the ocean wave, glory!

APPENDIX.



At a meeting of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company, subsequent to the delivery of the above Oration, the following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:

“Resolved, That Major Cook, Captains McLean, McKethan, Campbell and Sundy, Sergeants Nott, McKay, McMillan, Kirkpatrick and Draughon, and Messrs. E. J. Clark and W. G. Matthews, be appointed a Committee to tender the thanks of the Independent Light Infantry Company to EDWARD LEE WINSLOW, Esq., for the able, eloquent and spirited Oration delivered by him on the occasion of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of this Corps.”

“Resolved, further, That the said Committee be instructed, on behalf of the Corps, to solicit a copy of the Oration for publication.

“AND WHEREAS, from the personal relation existing between Mr. Winslow and the late John Winslow, Esq., for a long period Commander of this Corps, delicacy doubtless dictated too slight a notice of that gentleman, his services and character: And whereas, the Officers and Members of the Corps are unwilling that their estimate of his worth should be measured by so brief an allusion:

“Be it therefore further Resolved, That if Mr. Winslow should consent to furnish a copy of his Oration for publication, he be requested to append to the same a biographical sketch of the said John Winslow, Esq., and a copy of the obituary notice of Mr. Winslow, originally published in the journals of this town.”

In furtherance of the purposes of the foregoing resolutions, Edward Lee Winslow, Esq. has placed it in the power of the Committee to give such a view of the character of his deceased parent as is demanded, without any sacrifice of that delicacy which so naturally restrained the utterance of his own feelings.

Eulogy cannot be false or misapplied, when it is called forth by the worth of one who has so long been numbered with the dead. When the soul has but just winged its flight back to its Giver; when the heart is yet keenly alive to the agonies of bereavement, and the virtues of the departed are still fresh in the memory, the partiality of affection may be supposed to indulge its warmth in the excess of encomium; the zeal of friendship may call forth the ardent language of praise; the recollection of recent services may swell the testimonials of respect. But when long years have rolled over the tomb of the dead, and the grave has closed over most of his contemporaries, and a new generation occupies the seats he once adorned, his must be no ordinary character which can then animate the soul and exact the tribute of eulogy. Such a man was John Winslow. As a christian, of the purest piety and warmest philanthropy; as a gentleman, of the most polished urbanity and generous hospitality; as a man, of the strictest integrity; and as a citizen, of the most zealous patriotism,—he lived to enjoy the love, respect and confidence of his fellow citizens. Every honor that could be paid to merit, he received; every gratification that could flow from the partiality of extended friendship, he enjoyed.

As immediately connected with this Company, it will be proper to notice his relation to it more particularly. He was elected Captain in 1801, but resigned in 1806. In 1811 he was again elected to the command of the Company. This was during a turbulent period in the history of the world. The dark cloud of war hung heavy over the plains of Europe, and the dread thunder of battle was echoed back from the shores of America. And now, when the storm seemed ready to burst upon us, the wisdom and courage of the wise and the brave was aroused to break its fury and avert its horrors. Captain Winslow had already secured the confidence of the Company by his known qualifications as a Soldier, and now, that his Company was at the service of Government, there was no one better fitted to lead it on to glory. Upon the only occasion upon which the Company was called into the field, we have already seen, in the body of the Address, the circumstances which prevented his personal attendance; circumstances which may have for a time mortified the pride of the Soldier, but which will find a ready sympathy in the heart of the generous and the brave.

In 1819, Captain Winslow resigned his command, and forever dissolved his connection with the Company. He died in 1820. The appended Obituary Notice, from the journals of the Town, will show the deep feelings of sorrow at his loss, and the estimate of his townsmen of his value as a man and citizen; and at the same time will give all the necessary biographical particulars:—

[From an Obituary Notice published in 1820.]

“Died in this place, on the morning of the 30th ult., after a short illness, JOHN WINSLOW, Esq., (of the firm of Winslow & Huske,) Merchant.

“Mr. Winslow was the son of the Rev. Edward Winslow, an Episcopal Clergyman of Boston, (Massachusetts,) one of the numerous and respectable family of that name, residents of that State, descendants of one of its earliest settlers. Mr. Winslow was born at Quincy, in the State of Massachusetts, the 9th of April, 1765; his father dying at New York in 1780, Mr. W., with his mother and her family, removed to this place in the year 1794, from which period to the time of his death, he had remained an inhabitant of this town. May that God “who tempers the wind to the shorn lamb,” enable his afflicted widow and family to bear their great and irreparable loss.

“The eulogist of departed worth might here indulge his talent on an extensive scale without danger of outraging the truth; yet as the subject of this notice was possessed of talents more useful than splendid, suffice it to say, that such was the confidence placed in him by his fellow citizens, that he has by them been elected at different times to every office of trust in their power to bestow. To those who had not the happiness of an acquaintance with his person and virtues, it is enough to say, that as a son, a brother, a husband, a father and a friend, he was dutiful, tender, steady and affectionate; as a gentleman, polite, hospitable, humane and generous; and as a man, a citizen and a christian, honest, patriotic, pious and benevolent.”

“TOWN OF FAYETTEVILLE, November 30, 1820.

“The Commissioners, at their Meeting this forenoon, have appointed the following Gentlemen a Committee to form suitable Arrangements for the Funeral of our late worthy citizen, John Winslow, Esq., Magistrate of Police, viz: Robert Strange, Benjamin Robinson, Hugh Campbell, Paris I. Tillinghast, Jr., John Clark, Duncan McLeran and John McLeran, Esquires, who beg leave to recommend as follows:

“That the death of our worthy and useful fellow citizen, being a public calamity which will be long felt and deeply deplored by the inhabitants of Fayetteville, to

whom his numerous virtues are well known, as an imperfect memorial of the high respect they entertain for his memory and the sincerity with which they lament his loss they wear Black Crape upon their left arm for the space of thirty days; that all business be suspended in this Town to-morrow until the body is committed to the grave; that a general attendance be given to a Funeral Sermon which the Rev. G. T. Bedell will be requested to deliver in St. John's Church at a convenient season."

LIST OF OFFICERS AND PRIVATES,

*Attached to the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry
Company, August 23d, 1843.*

JOHN H. COOK, Major Commandant.
ARCHIBALD McLEAN, 1st Captain.
ALFRED A. McKETHAN, 2d Captain.
ARCHIBALD M. CAMPBELL, 3d Captain.
JAMES SUNDY, 4th Captain.
WILLIAM T. NOTT, Orderly Sergeant.
WILLIAM McL. McKAY, 2d Sergeant.
CHARLES A. McMILLAN, 3d Sergeant.
WILLIAM E. KIRKPATRICK, 4th Sergeant.
WALTER DRAUGHON, 5th Sergeant.
WILLIAM HUSKE, 1st Corporal.
ARCHIBALD McDONALD, 2d Corporal.
JOHN A. McLAUCHLIN, 3d Corporal.
ROBERT A. STUART, 4th Corporal.

A. Alden.
C. Anderson.
Charles Bebee.
W. K. Blake.
Nathan Branson.
J. Butler.
J. M. Beasley.
John D. Cameron.
R. S. Cain.
E. J. Clark.
Samuel Decker.
W. T. Frizell.
J. S. Grant.
John C. Haigh.
Walter A. Huske.
C. Hargrove.
C. R. Jones.
W. S. Jessup.
J. Kirkpatrick.
N. King.
A. F. Mallett.
W. G. Matthews.
T. Mitchell.
T. R. Murphy.

D. McLaurin.
N. McDuffie.
M. McDuffie.
M. McIntyre.
S. McGary.
H. McMillan.
J. D. McCallum.
J. K. McGuire.
George C. Newby.
H. Nunnery.
C. D. Nixon.
E. J. Russell.
J. S. Raboteau.
T. Rhodes.
S. G. Smith.
A. C. Simpson.
A. G. Stacy.
J. M. Stedman.
J. P. Smith.
J. Vann.
F. T. Ward.
J. M. Williams.
A. J. Woodard.

Triumph for the Fayetteville Company.

We see by our exchanges that in a shooting match at Wellesley, the country seat of Mr. W. E. Baker, the hospitable host who so splendidly entertained the Southern military during their recent visit to Boston, which took place on the 11th inst., the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry Company "covered themselves with glory." The contest was between the Washington Light Infantry, of Charleston, the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry, the Claflin Guards, of New York, and the Clinch Rifles, of Augusta, a team of three representing each company. They had five shots each, and their score was as follows:

Washington Light Infantry—Simmons, 13; McCormack, 7; Mure, 3. Total 23.

Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry—Banks, 8; Gibson, 15; Smith, 12. Total 35.

Claflin Guards—Stafford, 2; Brown, 14; Cushman, 7. Total 23.

Clinch Rifles—Fitzsimmons, 14; Daniels, 6; Slack, 10. Total 30.

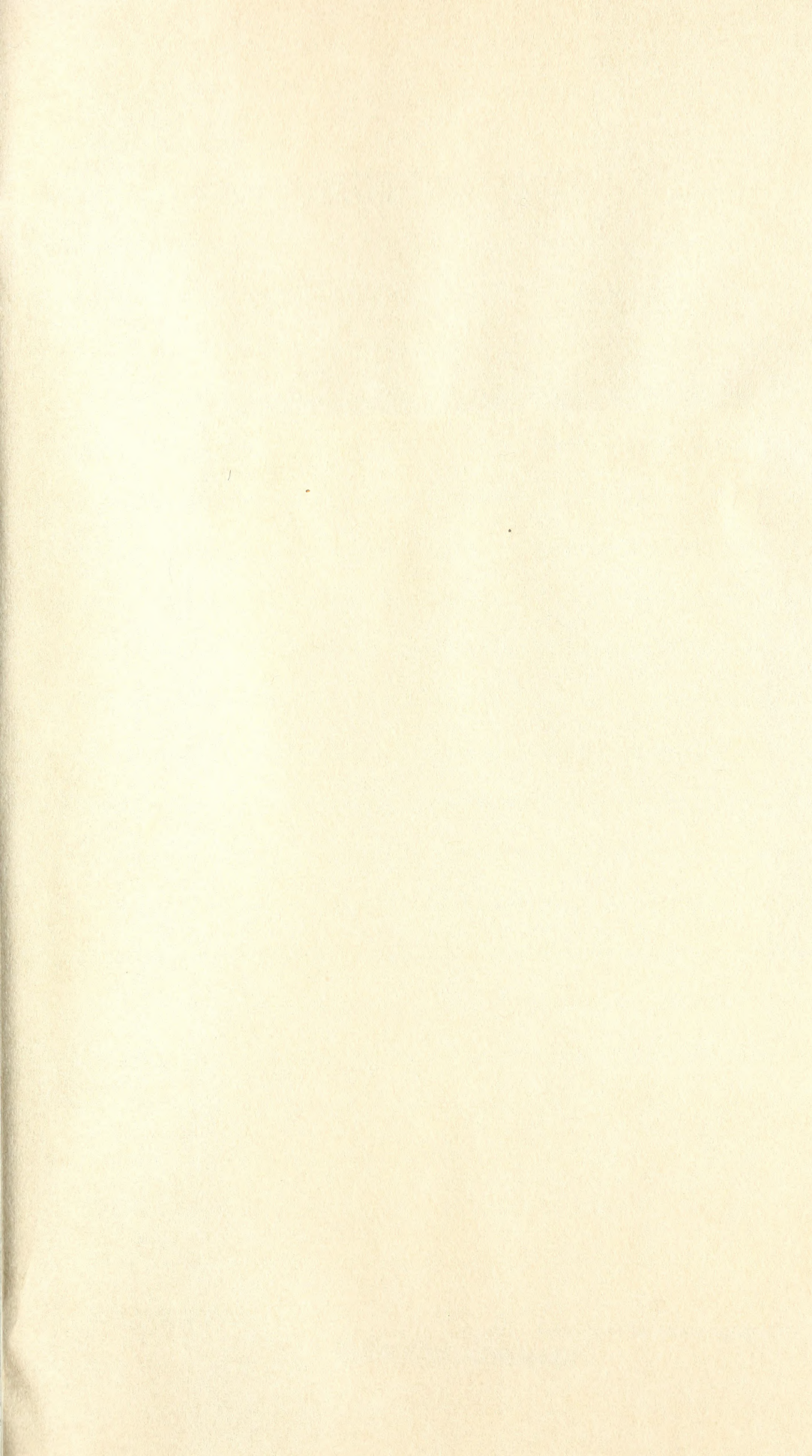
The result not only put the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry first, but gave Gibson of its team the highest individual score.

The New York *Herald*, of Monday, alluding to the Fayetteville boys, says:

"A detachment of the Fayetteville (N. C.) Independent Light Infantry, under command of Captain J. B. Smith, arrived in town yesterday morning from Boston, where they had been handsomely entertained several days by Colonel Baker. On their way here they called at Newport and had a little rifle practice with the Newport Artillery, as reported in yesterday's *Herald*. Captain Smith's company was at Philadelphia on the 4th inst., and, after "doing" the Exhibition, all but the detachment referred to returned direct to their homes. This company is among the oldest military organizations in this country, having been organized in 1794. They are a fine body of men, and reflect credit upon their native State by their gentlemanly and soldierly bearing. They are greatly pleased with their reception and treatment at the hands of their Northern friends and declare that they have had a glorious time ever since they left home. The detachment will leave town this morning by the nine o'clock train, and will proceed direct to their Southern homes."

Capt. Walter Concy, who was with the Fayetteville company, was expected to arrive here last evening.





Oration, delivered before the Fayettevil



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Oration, delivered before the
Fayetteville Independent Light
Infantry Company

